

**Comment
Period**

The U.S. Department of Energy, state of Idaho and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency are committed to reducing risk of contaminant migration to the aquifer beneath the Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory. The agencies are seeking public comment on a proposal to coat beryllium blocks with a wax-based grout at the Radioactive Waste Management Complex.

The blocks were buried in the Subsurface Disposal Area between 1970 and 1993. They are beginning to corrode and release carbon-14, a long-lived, mobile contaminant. Coating the blocks reduces migration of contamination to the Snake River Plain Aquifer and keeps future remediation options open for the Subsurface Disposal Area.

The agencies are seeking public comment on the proposal to coat beryllium blocks in place. The proposal is available online at

cleanup.inel.gov and in the administrative record. The administrative record is located at the DOE Reading Room of the INEEL Technical Library in Idaho Falls. Copies can be found at Albertson's Library at Boise State University. The Administrative Record can be accessed on the Internet at <http://ar.inel.gov/>. The Department of Energy is also willing to provide briefings to interested groups upon request. To request a briefing, contact Jeff Perry at 208-526-4570 or by e-mail to perryjn@id.doe.gov.

Public comment will be accepted through April 13, 2004. Comments can be submitted at <http://cleanup.inel.gov> or by sending comments to:

Jeff Perry
Department of Energy
P.O. Box 1625
MS 1222
Idaho Falls, Idaho
83415-1222



G1168-02

Community Relations Office
Idaho Completion Project
P.O. Box 1625 MS 2414
Idaho Falls, ID 83415-2414

Address Service Requested

FIRST CLASS
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
IDAHO FALLS, ID
PERMIT 73